

#### PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Piano 2024 edition, May 5 to 16

# THE SIX FINALISTS OF THE 2024 PIANO EDITION ARE NOW KNOWN

**Montreal, May 12, 2024 –** Following a highly intense Semifinal, the emotion was palpable as the **six finalists** of the <u>Concours musical international de Montréal (CMIM)</u> **were revealed** tonight at Salle Bourgie. The 10 pianists of Piano 2024 delivered a remarkable competition, marked by unforgettable performances.

Presided over by cultural manager Zarin Mehta (USA, India), the International Jury consists of nine members globally recognized for their expertise and experience: Dmitri Alexeev (Russia, United Kingdom), Lydia Artymiw (USA), Louise Bessette (Canada), Jan Jiracek von Arnim (Germany), Robert Levin (USA), Hélène Mercier (Canada), Ronan O'Hora (Great Britain, Ireland), and Minsoo Sohn (South Korea) deliberated to select the six finalists:

#### ORDER OF APPEARANCE FOR THE SIX FINALISTS

Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 7:30 PM Elias ACKERLEY (UK, South Korea) Anthony RATINOV (United States) Gabriele STRATA (Italy)

Thursday, May 16, 2024, 7:30 PM
Derek WANG (United States)
Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)
Jakub KUSZLIK (Poland)

#### **SPECIAL AWARDS WINNERS**

#### Gabriele STRATA (Italy)

Winner of the <u>Chamber Music Award</u>

Offered by Dixi Lambert and the Montreal Chamber Music Festival

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

Winner of the <u>Best performance of a Sonata in the Semifinal Award</u>

Offered by Anne Stevens

Jaeden IZIK-DZURKO (Canada)

# Winner of the André Bachand Award for the Best performance of an imposed Canadian work Offered by Claudette Hould

#### **Rendez-vous for the Final**

The Final will take place at **Maison symphonique**, where the competitors will perform with the **Orchestre symphonique de Montréal (OSM)**, the official orchestra of the CMIM, under the direction of Guest Conductor <u>Xian Zhang</u>.

The three laureates and the rest of the winners of the special prizes will be announced on Thursday, May 16, during the second and final evening of the Final. The closing ceremony is presented in partnership with the Fondation Sandra et Alain Bouchard.

#### **Prizes and grants**

The laureates of Piano 2024 will receive prizes and grants, as well as engagements, valued at over \$200,000.

#### On the Web and on the air

All rounds of the CMIM are broadcast live on the Web and available for on-demand listening at concoursmontreal.ca.

#### Tickets and packages

<u>Tickets for the entire Piano 2024 edition Competition are available for purchase online or by</u>
phone through the Place des Arts box office.

#### To view the livestream of the competition:

https://www.concoursmontreal.ca/en/

#### To stay updated on all CMIM activities

https://www.concoursmontreal.ca/en/

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#### **ABOUT THE CMIM**

The Concours musical international de Montréal (CMIM) is a prestigious competition that showcases the international elite of the new generation of classical music. An essential *rendez-vous* of passion and music, in the heart of a city known for its cultural vitality and warm welcome, the CMIM enjoys an undeniable reputation worldwide. Since its inception in 2001, nearly 5,000 young virtuosi, trained in the best music schools from over 90 countries, have taken on the challenge to excel. The CMIM is more than a competition: it is a remarkable platform that highlights the excellence and pure talent of exceptional classical musicians. Our mission is to contribute concretely to the career development of participating artists by making the heart of Montreal vibrate to the rhythm of classical music, making it even more accessible to all, while forging links between the public, young artists and exceptional mentors. Together, we create unforgettable memories and propel the careers of young international musicians.

## **Media Contact**

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